

Serial No. 09/995,644
September 10, 2003
Reply to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003
Page 10 of 11

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 4-49 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 4-6, 8-12 and 14, cancels claims 1-3 and adds new claims 18-49.

Claims 16-18 were objected to for being misnumbered since claim 15 was missing from the originally filed specification. Accordingly, Applicant has referred to claims 16-18 as 15-17 as changed by the Examiner.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 5-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended allowable claims 5, 6 and 8-10 to be in independent form including all of the features of base claim 1 and intervening claims 2 and 3.

Claims 1-4 and 11-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsukada (U.S. 4,205,274).

Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and amended claims 4 and 11-17 to be dependent upon allowable claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art rejection of claims 1-4 and 11-17 is moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 5, 6 and 8-10 are allowable. Claims 4 and 11-49 depend upon claims 5, 6 and 8-10, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 5, 6 and 8-10 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

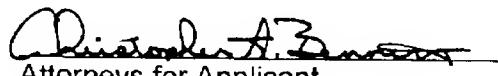
To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions the Commissioner for a Three-month extension of time, extending to September 18, 2003, the period for response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003.

Serial No. 09/995,644
September 10, 2003
Reply to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003
Page 11 of 11

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 2003



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